

Board of the National Museum of Ireland

Minutes of Meeting of the Board

Thursday 29th September 2022, at 10am via video-conference
(Approved on 17th November 2022)

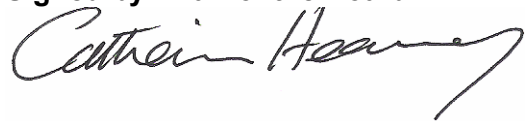
Present:	Catherine Heaney (Chair) Ambrose Loughlin Linda King Paolo Viscardi Susan Rogers Barra O'Donnabhain John Bowen	Helen Shenton Claudia Kinmonth Andrew Power Geraldine Sheridan Cathal O'Donoghue
Apologies:	None	
In attendance:	Lynn Scarff (Director, NMI) Audrey Whitty (Deputy Director and Head of Collections & Learning, NMI)	Aoife Hurley (Head of Operations, NMI) Mark Sherry (Head of Finance & Procurement, NMI) Jade Dillon (Secretary to the Board, NMI)

1.0	Opening of meeting, apologies if any and adoption of the agenda
1.1	The Chair opened the meeting and no apologies were conveyed.
1.2	<u>Adoption of agenda</u> 1. It was agreed that a closed discussion would take place at the end of the meeting. 2. Given the announcement of the budget for 2023, it was agreed that Audit & Risk Committee agenda item would be taken first. 3. It was agreed that one hour would be allocated for the strategic plan discussion item, and that this would be followed by a break.
2.0	Conflicts of interest
2.1	No conflicts of interest were recorded.
3.0	Minutes of 30th June 2022
3.1	Minutes were approved with exception to minor amendments.
3.2	<u>Matters arising</u> On behalf of the Board, the Chair expressed her gratitude to the work of Lorraine Comer, NMI's Head of Education, who retired in August 2022. The Board wished L. Comer very best wishes on her retirement.
4.0	Executive updates
4.1	<u>Chair updates</u> The Chair provided updates on proposal to restructure subcommittees in line with 2023 Strategic Plan.
4.2	<u>Director updates</u> The Board noted the Executive report which included updates on recruitment, NMI events, exhibitions, acquisitions, visitor engagement and community programming. The Executive report was formally approved.
5.0	Special discussion topic: draft Strategic Plan

5.1	The Board noted the draft strategic plan. The Director referred to the last Board meeting where the NMI was given leave to draft the Plan through the lenses of equality, diversity 2) climate change and 3) internationalisation and research. The Director highlighted that 2027 would mark the 150 th anniversary of NMI. Feedback per Board member was formally recorded for the attention of the Strategic Plan consultant, Gerri Moriarty. The Board thanked the strategy committee, the Executive and the wider NMI team on the further development of the draft strategic plan to date and gave leave to the Director to further refine the draft.
6.0	Subcommittee updates
6a	<p><u>Audit & Risk Committee</u> The Board noted the ARC report and the following documents that had been formally adopted by the ARC for the attention of the Board:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Corporate Risk Register 2. Financial Pack 3. Energy Consumption report 4. Cyber-security report <p>The Board noted and approved all documents.</p>
	<p><u>Budget allocation for 2023</u> The Committee discussed the budget breakdown for national cultural institutions that was announced yesterday by the government. The Director informed the Board that no formal allocation letter has been received as yet.</p>
	<p><u>Energy consumption report</u> The Board noted the energy consumption report that was drafted by NMI's Head of Facilities & Security, Justin Rovira-Kearney. Some discussions followed on the significant increases in utility costs. The Board were in agreement that NMI will be entering a challenging winter and new year and recommended that ARC continues to have oversight over changes and mitigations in relation to increased utility costs.</p>
	<p><u>Budget Commentary 2023</u> The Director welcomed Mark Sherry to the meeting. The Board noted the Budget Commentary 2023 PowerPoint. The Board welcomed the update on pension allocation in Budget 2023.</p>
6b	<p><u>Strategy & Engagement Committee</u> The Board noted the Committee report, which included updates on NMI's branding and identity tender. It was agreed that a general presentation on the recent visitor experience survey would be scheduled by the Secretary.</p>
	<p><u>External Board member appointment</u> The Board formally adopted the appointment of Dr Thomas Kador onto the Strategy & Engagement Committee as an External Board member.</p>
6c	<p><u>Capital & Estates Committee</u> The Board noted the Committee report. The Director updated the Board on the Natural History capital project and developments in relation to the Collections Resource Centre.</p>
6d	<p><u>General Public Advisory Committee</u> The Board noted the Committee report, final draft acquisitions procedure forms and the draft Form of Transfer. On behalf of GPAC, B. O'Donnabhain recommended the adoption of all forms and all were formally approved by the Board.</p>
	<p><u>St Gallen flagship exhibition</u> The Board formally approved loan proceedings for a significant upcoming exhibition in collaboration with St Gallen. The Deputy Director estimated that this exhibition would be launched in Q2 of 2025. The Board warmly welcomed this opportunity to collaborate with St Gallen.</p>
7.0	A.O.B

7.1	It was agreed that Board member titles would not be used in Board minutes going forward.
8.0	Date of next meeting
8.1	17 th November 2022 at 10am. <u>End of meeting.</u>

Signed by Chair of the Board:



APPROVED